

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 2-4 citing informalities. Specifically, the Examiner refers to the starting of each of these claims with the phrase "An antenna". In response, Applicant has amended claims 2-4 as suggested by the Examiner to recite "The antenna". Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the objection to claims 2-4 be withdrawn.

In the Official Action, the Examiner rejects claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5, 977, 916 to Vannatta, et al. (hereinafter "Vannatta").

It is respectfully submitted that Vannatta as applied by the Examiner does not appear to specifically disclose an antenna apparatus having a pair or a plurality of phase shift circuits for shifting phase of radio waves, as recited in independent claims 1, 5, and 9. That is, the Examiner refers to element 260 and lines 20-25 of column 3 of Vannatta as teaching a pair or plurality of phase shift circuits. However, as discussed in the March 7, 2001 telephone interview, the cited portion of Vannatta appears to teach only a single, phase shifter 260. Accordingly, it is believed that independent claims 1, 5, and 9, along with claims 2-4, 6-8 and 10 dependent therefrom, are distinguishable from Vannatta as applied by the Examiner.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned **"Version with markings to show changes made."**

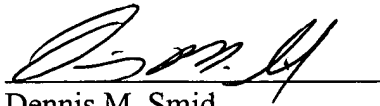
The Examiner has apparently made of record, but not applied, U.S. Patent No. 6,175,334. The applicant appreciates the Examiner's explicit finding that this patent, whether considered alone or in combination with others, does not render the claims of the present application unpatentable.

PATENT
450100-03070

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No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,
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“VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE.”

IN THE CLAIMS

Amend claims 2-4 by re-writing the same to the following:

2. (Amended) [An] The antenna apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:
one of said phase shift circuits which are coupled to said one of said antenna elements shifts phase of said radio waves so as to increase an impedance of said one of said antenna elements at the resonance frequency of the other one of said antenna elements.
3. (Amended) [An] The antenna apparatus according to claim 1, wherein: said phase shift circuit comprises a lumped circuit.
4. (Amended) [An] The antenna apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:
said phase shift circuit comprises a distributed constant circuit.